

X who was also an ONI agent advised that there was no question in his mind but that Thayer is a homosexual and should not be retained in such a vulnerable position as he now holds because if people knew that he was a homosexual in Belgrade and Vienna it is a foregone conclusion that the Russians also have access to that same information, and at some propitious moment use it to embarrass the Department.

Note: Mr. Wayne Vucinich and Mr. Michael Boro Petrovitch were both investigated by CSA and there are voluminous files on these two men in which many witnesses state that they believe both of them to be either communists, communist sympathizers or fellow travelers.

Mr. Andrew Kristovich, ONI agent, now employed by CIA, advised that he was in Belgrade while Mr. Thayer was head of the Military Mission there and that he knew that Thayer had the reputation of being hs...

Mrs. Richard Coombes, 3102 N St. NW, advised that she and her husband, a Major in the U.S. Army, were stationed in Vienna when Mr. Thayer was there... Mr. T has a peculiar ability to make enemies because of his rude manners and brusqueness. It was always difficult for anyone to work with him and the number of people who served under him actually hated him. Part of this is due, she said, to T's emotions. He is easily upset and shows it quite obviously... He does not understand team work or how to organize people to work smoothly as a team.

She advised that Mollie Thayer, a society writer for the Washington Post, has talked quite frequently about Mr. Thayer and has made some statements to the effect that he is not loyal to our government. She... understood they were distant relatives.

Mr. Joseph Roland, ADO, State Dept., stated he was in the Army in Vienna when Thayer was chief of the OSS Mission in Vienna. The informant was member of a mission representing Army Intelligence... He advised that he disliked Thayer because T was such a contemptible person... almost impossible to work with because T did not understand organizational teamwork and was so egotistical and such an introvert that he made snap judgments which were often very bad and he would never retrench (sic) or admit he was wrong. Informant... was greatly surprised to find he had been appointed to head the important IBD which is a very vulnerable position. He said that T is extremely clandestine about his private life and intimate friends... He never had any reason to question T's moral life.

Mr. Maurice Rice, Acting Chief, ADE, State Dept., advised he knew T in Belgrade... that Thayer was "the meanest man in the world," and expressed a dislike for him based on Thayer's incompetence, rudeness, rashness, lack of ethics in dealing with people and his faculty for making enemies... He was extremely surprised and disappointed to find that the Dept. had appointed Thayer to his position in IBD because it is such a vulnerable position and one that certainly needs a good leader who can encourage team work and get a good organization to do a good job. He advised that T is extremely childish, temperamental and sometimes but moody but he has never had any reason to question his moral life.

Mr. Charles Pick, acting chief of FA, advised that when Ira W. Porter was Administrative Officer for FA Porter and Thayer were very close friends. Every time T came to town he either stayed at Porter's house or visited with him... Porter was asked to resign from State because he was found to be a notorious homosexual who during his tenure of office with FA brought in several other homosexuals into that office.

Mr. James R. Nolloth, supt. of Apt. 1350 Madison Ave., NYC advised that James Thayer and Nicholas Nabokoff at one time lived together in apt. 4 North of that street. N, who was divorced, married again ...and Thayer moved out in March 1948 to the NY Athletic Club...While Nabokoff was out of town T often brought in men friends to spend the night with him. These were always young men. There was a period of about 3 months when Thayer and Nabokoff had a young 25-year old French boy named Jacques Brosse living with them. He was very effeminate and the obvious type that one calls a "queer." He was a neighborhood boy having another rooming place about two blocks away...Brosse was an artist who drew a lot of nude pictures and read a lot of French books which are still in Nab's apt. The informant stated he knew there was something between the French boy, ~~and~~ Brosse, and Thayer...when he first saw Thayer he had him tabbed as a queer."...All of his men friends seemed to be the "queer type."...The informant advised that he had found that Thayer, who is always clandestine about his affairs, held a position that had to do with broadcasting propaganda to Russia. He said that he had been suspicious of Thayer and Nabokoff, not because N is a Russian but because every person with whom they associated or brought into the apt. not only looked foreign but all spoke with foreign accents....He said he found a piece of writing in the apt. apparently written by Brosse giving some details of his background, which is as follows: Name: Jacques Brosse.... I was in underground during German occupation. I have been four months in the US with the French press at Lake Success. Positions held: Editor of the French newspaper "Combat" for one year. At present editor of "Esprit," a French literary magazine, managing director of "Les Portes de France," published in Paris....

Mr. Nolloth advised that the Bank of Canada once sent a ~~xxx~~ representative to see him regarding Nabokoff because N was a Russian and wanted to go to Canada...The representative seemed to be very suspicious regarding N. Informant closed by saying there was no doubt in his own mind but that Thayer and his friends were ~~hs~~.

Mrs. J. Rist, 118 E. 95th St., NYC stated she remembered Col. Thayer who lived next door at 120 E. 95th for six months in 1946...Both 118 and 120 have gardens in the back and she was able to observe him during the summer months...He never entertained women but always had young men...His association with a large number of young men which did not include women seemed off for "such a nice looking young man..."

Confidential Informant A, who is employed as Chief of one of the sections in the New York Office of IED stated he has known Thayer for 1 or 1½ yrs...he is unpopular because conceited, selfish and an extreme introvert whom many people detest. He is not a good administrator but in an attempt to be a strong administrator makes quick decisions, most of which are bad and he will never retract or admit any mistake. This makes it very difficult for the rest of the staff to continually try to cover up for Thayer's mistakes. He is no good for teamwork and is a bad organizer. The informant, who is considered to be very reliable..was in the OWI Foreign Broadcasting Division...He was in the OIC Program before Thayer was made Chief of IBD and he expressed great surprise that the Dept. would appoint a man like Thayer with no radio technical background to head such a technical division...The informant said: "If it is homosexuality you are looking for, I am not sure." He said he assumed this because of office gossip regarding Thayer and his association with Nicholas Nabokoff who is obviously ~~hs~~...The majority of the people in the IBD office, according to the informant, now accept Nab. and Thayer as a "pair" and they are the laughing stock of the office. Thayer has been very friendly with a good looking young man named Robert Ross who is Acting Chief of the Radio Program Branch. He described Ross as a weak young man who is undoubtedly homosexual and who would submit to any wish of Thayer's in order to stay in T's good graces or procure a promotion. ...The informant has no proof to offer that Ross is ~~hs~~ but expressed himself as having no doubt whatsoever.

...single, in his late 30's who resides at the Yale Club....The informant does not have Beattie is he but admitted he certainly has some suspicions regarding him because his close association with Thayer. Informant has a high rating in his particular field and expects to go into private industry in the very near future. He therefore does not wish to harm Thayer but believes the entire story should be told and investigated. He stated that if Thayer is a he as suspected by him that undoubtedly the Russians have the same information which puts Thayer in a very unhealthy spot because of his position. Being a staffmember the informant sees Thayer very frequently and he stated that Thayer has let it be known throughout the office that he is the brother in law of Charles "Chip" Bohlen and he makes sure that no one forgets it by using Bohlen's name quite frequently as his brother in law. He advised that T usually leaves NY each Friday evening for Phila. or Washington, usually stops with Bohlen while at Wash., conducts business in Wash. on Mondays and is usually back at the office in NY on Tuesday morning.

Mr. Robert Ross...employed in a CAF-12 position in the NY office of IBD, stated that when he first began working with Thayer they were very close and associated together quite frequently but that later Thayer has "cooled off" towards him. He advised that he has been to a few bars for drinks with Thayer and on several occasions has been to his apt. for a few drinks. Mr. Ross admitted to the undersigned special agent that he, himself is homosexual. He does not know why and has worried considerably about his condition...he realizes that his sexual proclivities are not in conformity with the usual mores of our society. He stated that he does not know whether Thayer is a he or not and he denied any relations....He felt very strongly that Nabokoff is a he. N acts and talks like a he and usually comes in the morning with such greetings as "good morning dear," or "hello dear", to different people including men in the office. He waves his hands with a Continental but nevertheless an effeminate manner and he "swishes" when he moves about. Most of the people in the office believe that N is a he and the close association between N and Thayer and the fact they were once roommates has caused a lot of gossip in the office to the effect that N and Thayer are "that way" with each other. Ross advised that he has heard from several sources around town that N is a he and it undoubtedly is a strong possibility. He steadfastly claimed that he did not know for sure whether T was or was not he but stated that it is a possibility because T acted and talked as he's often do. Mr. Ross advised that there are 5 or 6 other homosexuals in the NY office of IBD but he was adamant in his refusal to name any of them.

Mr. Jacques Brosse was interviewed in New York on June 24. He stated that he is presently employed by United Nations as an Information Officer, Grade 11, \$350 per month. He entered the US on July 23, 1947, from Paris. He is a French citizen, therefore does not have American citizenship...He met Nabokoff thru N's present wife before the Ns were married and moved into N's apt. at 1350 Madison Ave. where N was living with Chas. Thayer, head of the Voice of America for the State Dept. When N was married in March 1948 Brosse and Thayer had to move out. Brosse is living at 1248 Second Ave...Brosse admitted that he is homosexual. He named several persons of no interest to this investigation with whom he had engaged in his relations. He admitted that his homosexual activity includes every type of act known and admitted; that he would indulge in any type of he under the right circumstances. He also admitted to extramarital heterosexual experiences. He advised that he has a wife in France and one son. However, he is not legally married to the woman because she could not secure a divorce from a former husband. They were therefore living in France as man and wife but he stated the son was his. He admitted engaging in his experiences at 1350 Madison Ave. while living in that apt. with N and Thayer but when he was questioned about N and T the undersigned Special Agent received the distinct feeling that Brosse "clammed up". At first he would not say anything either about N or T. When he did talk he denied that either were he but changed this statement later and stated that he had no firsthand knowledge that they were homosexuals.

(Brosse) stated that he had borrowed money from Nabokoff and Thayer and that he had talked with N on several occasions about who is "gay" and "queer" and what man was in love with another man. He advised that N knows a great number of h's and Brosse admitted that he had often heard that N is a h's from a number of people. He then stated that he believes that N is h's but denied any relations with N. He advised that N has attended many parties and has had parties in his own apartment at which only h's were in attendance.

Brosse then stated that he was not sure about T. He stated that Thayer had loaned him money but had never said or done anything out of the way that could cause him to say that T is h's. However, he advised that T's bedroom was across the hall from his and that while they were living in the same apt. T used to bring men into his bedroom who would stay until 2 or 3 in the morning. ...He stated that T does have some of the traits and actions of a h's.

Note: A former investigation of Nicholas Nabokoff by CSA who was at one time Chief of the Russian Desk of IBD and who is expected back from his teaching duties at Peabody Institute in the immediate future revealed the following information:

He came to this country about Oct. 1934 and resided here continuously from 1934 to 1935 at NYC, Aurora, NY and Annapolis, Md. He was nat. before Sup. Ct. at Auburn, NY Sept. 11, 1939, Certif. No. 460765 is exhibited in Passport Division. One informant, Mr. Albert G. Barnes, stated that during first part of 1934 subject started to run around with a fast night club set in NY. One of his friends was the notorious E.E. Cummings. About this time he left his wife and started running around with a Mrs. Crosby whom the informant considered "a wealthy prostitute." Informant stated that the subject received a social disease from Mrs. Crosby. Informant considered N to be a "blow sucker" and that he would get everything he could out of a person and being Russian is adept at intrigue and certainly not capable of holding a position of trust and confidence.

Mr. C. F. H. Thompson at Brookings Institute stated in part "I would not say that N is especially oriented sexually toward men, rather it is a 50-50 proposition with him. I lived with him in Berlin and he made no improper advances to me but I know that in Paris he associated with Dishileff, the Russian Ballet Impresario and Jean Cocteau, the French poet, both of whom are notorious homosexuals."

Mr. Geo. A. Keller, an art dealer in NYC, advised that while N was residing in NYC after his entrance into this country he was reported to have had numerous affairs with women, one in particular was with a Mrs. Crosby who was described a wealthy widow who had the reputation of being a very fast woman. Her husband was reported to have committed suicide. Informant stated that N also associated himself with a refugee group, a French artist and musicians, among whom it was the practice for the men to sleep together. He advised that he had heard several stories to the effect that subject was sleeping with various male artists in this group and knowing N as he did is inclined to place great veracity of these stories. (sic) He stated that he is of the opinion that the subject is greatly oversexed and because of this was compelled by nature to seek extracurricular activities outside the marital bonds among both males and females.

Mr. Nabokoff was interviewed by the undersigned special agent in N.Y. on June 25 at which time he gave the following information: He was at one time Chief of the Russian Language Desk of IBD and left to teach music at Peabody Institute in Baltimore, Md. He is still considered to be on a consultant basis with IBD and especially to react to

on duty in the immediate future on a fulltime basis. He admitted associating quite frequently with Dishileff and Jean Cocteau in Paris. He admitted that both are well known homosexuals but added that his association was merely a professional one as he is a composer and worked with these men "on several things." He denied that he is a hs or has any hs tendencies and cited his three marriages as proof....He admitted that all of his life he has associated with a great number of homosexuals, some because of his artistic endeavors in music where one finds many hss and some because he entertains no great antipathy toward hs, and has found some of them to be "most charming people..." One such friend is Virgil Thompson, a composer and music critic of the NY Herald Tribune. He lived for a while in Thompson's apt. in the Chelsea Hotel NYC but denied any hs relations with Thompson. He said that for 3 months Jack Brosse lived in his apt. while he and his good friend Chas. Thayer were sharing an apt. at 1350 Madison Ave...That Brosse had recently arrived from France, was out of funds, had no place to live, and he offered Brosse temporary shelter in his apt. "to keep him going." He admitted that both he and Thayer had given Brosse some funds. Even though Brosse admitted being hs Nabokoff stated that Brosse is definitely not a hs and he upbraided the undersigned special agent for even entertaining such a thought. He stated that it was preposterous to think that Brosse was hs because he was married and had a son in France...

It was N and not the special agent who mentioned the name of Thayer...first as "his close and dear friend Charles Thayer" and again as sharing his apt. with him and again as his chief at IBD...He denied that T is hs or has any such tendencies. He admitted being at parties and giving one or two parties at which he was the only one present who was not hs. He explained that his present wife is especially oriented to the extent that she understands hss and does not object to them. ...He stated he once had a cousin, now deceased, named N who was a notorious hs in Europe and some people may have confused him with his cousin.

Note: Mr. N is at present under inves. by FBI for the CIC program.

Ira W. Porter, who on July 11, 1947, admitted to the undersigned special agent that he is hs and subsequently resigned from the State Dept. for that reason...advised he has been a close friend of Thayer's for many years...that among Thayer's friends and those with whom he associated frequently were Rankin Roberts, Vernon Alves and Carmel Offie. Altho Porter denied emphatically that Thayer is hs, he admitted that he knew for a fact that Roberts, Alves and Offie were hss. He stated that he had heard recently that Offie, who is quite a well known hs, resigned his position in Frankfurt with the Foreign Service. He admitted his relations with Vernon Alves and stated that Roberts, who is a Major in the US Army, is considered to be a well known hs.

Confidential Informant B who is considered to be of extremely high reliability and whose veracity has been unquestioned on several occasions on which he has been an informant gave the following information:

I know Charles W. Thayer and that T is undoubtedly a hs. T and Col. Ira W. Porter, ... who is a notorious hs, are very good friends. .. Porter is a very large and masculine man who had a great record in World War II as a full Colonel and is almost impossible for anyone to surmise that Porter is a homosexual. However, one night Porter propositioned me and I thereupon dropped him as a friend. During this friendship, one night on Dec. 1946, Porter and I went to Thayer's apartment at 1762 K St., NW. Thayer

was a Colonel, having just returned from Europe where he had been Chief of the U.S. Mission to Belgrade and also the OSS Mission to Vienna. Thayer and I (sic) did not knock at the front door, but Porter being a good friend of Thayer's opened the door and we walked in. I was greatly surprised to find Thayer in bed undressed with another officer and Thayer and the other officer were having homosexual relations. Col. Porter later told me that Thayer "is as queer as a \$3 bill." Both of the officers then dressed and we sat around and had a few drinks. Col. Thayer talked at great length about his experience with the Yugoslav and Russian people. Porter and

John F. Kennedy

David L. Rosen

The other Army officer, whose name I do not remember, called Thayer "Charliex... Thayer at that time was married. Porter told me that although Thayer was married he is a "high class" hs and is known only among "high placed" homosexuals.....

During the week of May 14 to 21, 1948, I took a trip to NYC. While I was there, I found that Ira Porter was then in NYC "from somewhere out west" where he had been since his resignation from the State Dept. ...I also met Vernon Alves, a former Lieut. of the US Army who is known to me as a hs. ~~When~~.... When I met Alves, Alves said to me: "Porter is still in love with you and is going to make a queer out of you yet. I laughed this off as a joke. While Porter and I were talking, the name of Thayer came up and I asked Porter if he remembered the night that the two of us had gone to Thayer's apt. and caught Thayer in a hs act. Porter laughed and answered that he certainly did. I told Porter that I was interested in a position in the "Voice of America" and wondered whether Porter would ask Thayer to show me thru the shop.

Porter told me that Thayer had married an Italian girl named Maria Patrucci of whom Thayer did not know very much before marriage. Porter stated that Mrs. Thayer is a lesbian and that the marriage "did not take" and that she went to Mexico City, got a Mexican divorce and is now back in Rome. Porter said the only proof he had of that was that Thayer had told himself that Mrs. Thayer ~~is~~ is a lesbian.

The next day Porter made arrangements to meet Thayer with me. We went to a bar and had a few drinks except Thayer who at that time had a stomach ailment and had doctor's orders not to drink any more alcoholic drinks. The three of them ate and drank for several hours during which ~~we~~ we told many hs jokes and talked of many people who are hs and which man was in love with another. It was clear to me that Thayer had accepted me as a good friend of Porter's and therefore as a hs, or if not hs, one whom a hs may accept as "trade," a person who might submit to hs advances. During the entire evening Thayer paid very much attention to me. Most of the conversation that evening was in a hs vein and I felt as though Thayer were feeling me out. Thayer is a very smooth and accomplished man. When we left the restaurant and bar we took a cab to Porter's apartment. On entering the cab I offered to take Thayer's valise which he had brought along. I picked it up and Thayer put his hand over mine and held it. In the cab Thayer continued to hold my hand and squeezed it just as a young boy would squeeze a young girl's hand. When we reached Porter's place, Thayer did not let go of my hand and after Porter had left the cab Thayer sat a little closer to me, carressed my hand, and gave the driver the address 1350 Madison Ave. Thayer asked me to drop by his apt. for a few drinks. While the cab was on the way to 1350 Madison Thayer began to get "real close" to me and he breathed heavily, showing quite clearly that he was excited. As we rode along I realized that that was "the old homosexual approach" and I told Thayer that I had another appointment and asked to be let out of the cab. Thayer asked me several times to go to his apartment for several drinks, but he was too suave and smooth for me. I became a little frightened and made the excuse that I had a very definite appointment...whereupon Thayer directed the cab to my hotel....I had been through this type of approach several times and I knew...that it could not be any stretch of the imagination be construed as anything but a hs approach, especially since we had been talking all evening about who is homosexual in New York and Washington.

Earlier in the same evening Porter and Thayer had spoken of what great friends ~~each~~ each was with Carmel Offie...Both mentioned Major Rankin Roberts as a mutual friend and Porter turned to me and said Roberts is a very famous hs and is known to be a "queen," meaning someone high in the hs circles. During the conversation the

Earlier in the same evening Porter and Thayer had spoken of what great friends each was with Carmel Offie...Both mentioned Major Rankin Roberts as a mutual friend and Porter turned to me and said Roberts is a very famous hs and is known to be a "queen," meaning someone high in the hs circles. During the conversation the name of Mike Petrovich came up and I gained the impression that Thayer at one time lived with him. Thayer told Porter and me that Petrovich is a "gay" a hs term meaning an active or patricipating hs. ...

Confidential informant C who was employed in IBD advised that Thayer once roomed with Michael Petrovich.

Conf. Inf. D advised that one evening when Offie was visiting Washington, informant D went to a party at Porter's house at which Offie was in attendance. He stated that on several other occasions he met Offie and on another occasion when leaving Porter's house again Offie propositioned Informant D and told him that he, Offie, would like to go to bed with him. Informant D said he told Porter ... and was surprised to learn that Offie is a well known hs. Porter told D that Offie's reputstion among hss is that he is "gay" and well known. ...Conf. Informant E who admitted to undersigned agent that he is s hs and who was employed by the State Dept. said he has known for a long time that Carmel Offie, Foreign Service Officer, is s hs. ...

Rankin Roberts, mentioned several times as s friend of Thayer's, applied for a position with the Dept. of State. He was a major in the US Army. The CSA invlea. on Roberts indicated that he was reputed to have had a hs act with a highschool boy, one Donald Rhodes in Arizona. On another occasion he took one Garland Carnell, Jr., to a hotel, got him drunk, and then committed a hs act upon Carnell, Roberts being the active member. In his application for this position, Roberts gave as reference Charles W. Thayer.

Conf. Informant F, who admitted to the undersigned Spec. Agent that he is a hs, advised that he lived in the same house with Major Rankin Roberts. He stated he is sure that Roberts is hs...He stated Roberts was friendly with Graham Lytel, owner of the house, who is a known hs. Records of the Counter Intelligence Corps, War Dept., indicated that the DIC investigated Roberts and found him to be s hs. During the course of the investigation an informant turned over several pictures of Roberts and his friends which indicated sexual perversion, some of the picturea including Roberts and his friend in the nude. Based on this in es., Roberts was brought before a board of his peers, before which time Roberts admitted being hs. and was allowed to resign his commission as a Major in lieu of discharge. From a confidential source it was learned from Mr. Thayer that his office index file contained the following names: Rankin Roberts, Michael Petrovich.

H.

John Finlator
Special Agent